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(REV. 8-83)US Dept. of Commerce  
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117310APPLICATION NO.  
10/669,728

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT(S)  
Kunio SAKURAI et al.FILING DATE  
September 25, 2003GROUP  
2891 1756

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |  | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS |
|---------------------|--|-----------------|------|------|-------|--------------|
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |              |
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|           |   | DOCUMENT NUMBER            | DATE       | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB<br>CLASS |
|-----------|---|----------------------------|------------|---------|-------|--------------|
| <i>mc</i> | 1 | JP A 11-334265 w/abstract  | 12/07/1999 | Japan   |       |              |
|           | 2 | JP A 7-266723 w/abstract   | 10/17/1995 | Japan   |       |              |
|           | 3 | JP A 2001-92255 w/abstract | 04/06/2001 | Japan   |       |              |
|           | 4 | JP A 10-86562 w/abstract   | 04/07/1998 | Japan   |       |              |
| <i>mc</i> | 5 | JP A 7-89209 w/abstract    | 04/04/1995 | Japan   |       |              |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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EXAMINER

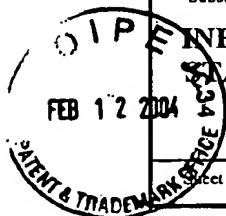
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DATE CONSIDERED

5/05

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Date: February 18, 2004



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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO                                                                 |      | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                      |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |      | Application Number       | 10/663,728 <i>25</i> |
|                                                                                               |      | Filing Date              | September 17, 2003   |
|                                                                                               |      | First Named Inventor     | Junichi NAKAHO       |
|                                                                                               |      | Art Unit                 | 2872 1756            |
|                                                                                               |      | Examiner Name            | Not yet assigned     |
| Sheet 1                                                                                       | of 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 740165-362           |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS          |                       |                                            |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup> | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document                       | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                                |                       | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
| <i>me</i>                      |                       | US-4,973,141                               | 11-27-1990                     | Baucke et al.                                      |                                                                                 |
| <i>me</i>                      |                       | US-6,074,066                               | 06-13-2000                     | Macher et al.                                      |                                                                                 |
|                                |                       | US-                                        |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS       |                       |                           |                                                          |                                |                                                    |                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup> | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |                                                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                                |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) |                                |                                                    |                                                                                    |
| <i>me</i>                      |                       | JP                        | 61-239230                                                | 10-24-1986                     | Mori                                               | Abstract                                                                           |
| <i>me</i>                      |                       | WO                        | 93/21557                                                 | 10-28-1993                     | Van Dine                                           | Full                                                                               |
|                                |                       |                           |                                                          |                                |                                                    |                                                                                    |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Examiner Initials <sup>*</sup>                    | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>7</sup> |
| <i>me</i>                                         |                       | EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT DATED DECEMBER 5, 2003<br>EP 03 02 0708                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                |
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| Examiner Signature | <i>me</i> | Date Considered | 5/05 |
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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<sup>7</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.